

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Walla Walla Veterans Home 92 Wainwright Drive | Walla Walla, Washington 99362 | 509-394-6800 | 509-527-4199 (fax)

August 10, 2022

Dear WWVH Residents, Families, Representatives, and Staff:

I'm writing to let you know that one staff member has tested positive for COVID-19 over the past 24 hours. They are self-isolating at home for the recommended time frame before returning to work. All residents are subsequently being tested and so far, all are negative.

We continue to follow the most current infection control and prevention recommendations from the Walla Walla County Department of Community Health, CDC, CMS, and the WA State Department of Health. In addition, our dedicated custodians are working seven days a week to ensure clean, disinfected surfaces throughout the facility.

<u>Visitation</u>: No changes to current protocols. All visitors must screen in PRIOR to visiting their loved one. Remember... we now have new screening kiosks in place for employees and for your convenience! Starting August 16, there will no longer be binders in the houses for screening in; all screening will be done using the kiosks. If you're having trouble using a kiosk, please let a staff person know so that we can assist. Because this is a healthcare facility, masks are still required on campus for all visitors, vendors, contractors, and staff.

<u>Employee Screening, Testing, Vaccinations</u>: All WWVH staff are fully vaccinated, currently being tested twice a week, and screened for symptoms and/or COVID-19 exposures upon arrival to the facility using the new kiosks.

In addition to email notifications, this information is personally distributed to all residents, and hard copies are mailed to residents' primary representative who prefer that form of communication. *Please remember to forward these notifications to any other family member(s)* you think would benefit from receiving the information as we only distribute them directly to the residents and primary contact persons. You may also access up to date WDVA COVID-19 information any time by visiting: <a href="https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid">www.dva.wa.gov/covid</a>.

Respectfully,

Lonna Leno, Administrator Walla Walla Veterans Home